

INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS FOR IMPROVED INTUITIVE SCROLLING
UTILIZING AN ENHANCED CURSOR

ABSTRACT

1 An information processing apparatus that can adjust the scrolling
2 speed for data displayed in an application window on a display and
3 display a visual scrolling speed indicator. When the user
4 manipulates a mouse to request scrolling of data in a window, the
5 display form of the mouse cursor is changed. That is, in addition
6 to the mouse cursor, one or more speed indicators appears in the
7 scrolling direction. The number of speed indicators which are
8 displayed corresponds to the scrolling speed. The speed indicators
9 are arranged from the center of the mouse cursor in the scrolling
10 direction. • A speed indicator is shaped like a small isosceles
11 triangle, and as its vertex is facing in the scrolling direction,
12 it is a very effective visual aid for a user. Preferably, one
13 speed indicator is displayed for a low scrolling speed, two for a
14 moderate scrolling speed and three for a high speed scrolling.
15 Since the speed indicators are extended in the scrolling direction
16 in accordance with the current scrolling speed, a user can
17 intuitively and quantitatively comprehend the scrolling speed and
18 direction. Since the speed indicator is displayed in the vicinity
19 of the mouse cursor, a user does not need to remove his or her eyes
20 from a focus point on the display screen and the continuity of the
21 operation can be maintained.